

Fifth Sunday after Easter

Holy Eucharist, Rite 2 – 10:30 am, May 7, 2023



St. Mark's Episcopal Anglican Church

Fairland Parish

Rev. Dr. Christopher I. Wilkins, Rector

Holy Eucharist, Rite 2

Fifth Sunday after Easter

The People stand.

Prelude

The Celebrant says.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you. Please rise. Our worship begins with [*the opening hymn*].

The Altar party processes as the Choristers lead the People in singing

Opening Hymn: *On this day, the first of days*

Hymn #47

1. On this day, the first of days,
God the Father's Name we praise,
who, creation's Lord and spring,
did the world from darkness bring.

2. On this day the eternal Son
over death his triumph won;
on this day the Spirit came
with his gifts of living flame.

3. Maker, who didst fashion me
image of thyself to be,

fill me with thy love divine,
let my every thought be thine.

4. Holy Jesus, may I be
dead and buried here with thee;
and, by love inflamed, arise
unto thee a sacrifice.

5. Thou, who dost all gifts impart,
shine, blest Spirit, in my heart;
best of gifts, thyself bestow;
make me burn thy love to know.

6. God, the blessed Three in One,
dwell within my heart alone;
thou dost give thyself to me:
may I give myself to thee.

Opening Rites and the Collect of the Day

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all
desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the
inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your
holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Gloria in Excelsis: *Glory to God*

Hymnal #S-280

The Choristers lead the People as they sing:

1. Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

2. Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

3. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,

4. you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;

5. you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

6. For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,

7. you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father,
Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The First Lesson

Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵ But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day: *In te, Domine, speravi* **Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16**
The Choristers will chant the Psalm.

¹ In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
 deliver me in your righteousness.

² Incline your ear to me; *
 make haste to deliver me.

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
 for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

⁴ Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
 for you are my tower of strength.

⁵ Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O LORD, O God of truth.

¹⁵ My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶ Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me."

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:2-10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸and

“A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn:

Hymn #432, vss. 1,2

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height

1. O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens, adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.

2. O praise ye the Lord! Praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord, all ye of new birth;
praise him who hath brought you his grace from above,
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.

The Gospel

John 14:1-14

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

14 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon: A Living Stone

The LEM leads the People as they say

The Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made
human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the
Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the

Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father *and the Son*.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Intercessor prays. In the silence after each bidding, the People may add their own petitions.

I ask your prayers for all God's people; for our bishops, our clergy,
and this gathering, and for all ministers and people. Pray for the
Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the
well-being of all. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may seek, and pray that they might find.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed, especially the victims of intolerance and war [*and N.N.*]. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

I ask your prayers for those on the prayer list of this parish, and those whose needs are known to you alone.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

The Peace

The People stand.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you,

People: And also with you.

The Ministers and People greet one another in silence and at physical distance.

Choral Anthem:

Come my Way, my Truth, my Life G. Herbert/R. Vaughan Williams

The Deacon or Priest prepares the altar and sanctuary for the Eucharist.

The Holy Eucharist: The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, holy Lord, giver of life and light. You fill us with your blessings and feed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Christ Jesus, renewed us in your Spirit, and brought us into everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining with Angels and Archangels and with all the host of heaven, who forever sing this hymn, to the glory of your Name,

Sanctus

Hymnal #S129

The Choristers lead the People as they sing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, maker of all things, judge of all who live. You made us in your image and to live in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care and bade us be faithful stewards of its bounty. But we honored not your gifts, misused your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us. You called us into your promise, delivered us from bondage, sustained us in the wild, and sent prophets to bid us repent and return.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made human in Christ Jesus, to live as one of us, and to reveal your glory. Giving himself up to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil and opened for us the way of everlasting life.

On the night before he died, as he sat at table with his friends, Our Lord Jesus Christ took bread. Giving thanks to you, he broke it, and shared it with them, saying:

“Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this in memory of me.” †

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and shared it with them, saying:

“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in memory of me.” †

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

The LEM leads the People as they say:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

In that mystery we offer to you this bread and this wine, fruit of the vine and the work of human hands. Send your Spirit upon them that they become for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. May we who share them be filled with that Holy Spirit to live as Christ's Body in the world. May we come to the everlasting heritage of your children, and with the apostles and martyrs and all your saints, enter into the joys of your salvation.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, now and forever. AMEN. ††

Now, as Christ taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

The Choristers lead the People as they say:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, and then keeps a period of silence.

The Fraction Anthem:

Hymnal #S155

The Choristers lead the People as they sing:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn: *O God, unseen yet ever near* **Hymn #332**

1. O God, unseen yet ever near,
thy presence may we feel;
and thus inspired with holy fear,
before thine altar kneel.

2. Here may thy faithful people know
the blessings of thy love,
the streams that through the desert flow,
the manna from above.

3. We come, obedient to thy word,
to feast on heavenly food;
our meat the Body of the Lord,
our drink his precious Blood.

4. Thus may we all thy word obey,
for we, O God, are thine;
and go rejoicing on our way,
renewed with strength divine.

The People consume their gifts. After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *The Celebrant prays*

Eternal God, holy Lord, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and

serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Announcements

Announcements, if any, are made here.

Blessing and Dismissal

The Celebrant says

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord be with you, this day and always, and give you peace.

Withdrawal Hymn:

Hymn #518

Christ is made the sure foundation

1. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the Church in one;
holy Zion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

2. All that dedicated city,
dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pours perpetual melody;
God the One in Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.

3. To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
with thy wonted lovingkindness
hear thy servants as they pray,
and thy fullest benediction
shed within its walls alway.

4. Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
what they ask of thee to gain;
what they gain from thee, for ever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory
evermore with thee to reign.

The Altar Party withdraws.

The LEM says

Let us go forth, in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Celebrant, the LEM, and the People depart, maintaining physical distance.

Postlude

Please join us in the Parish Hall for Coffee Hour and Fellowship.

Musical Notes: We once again welcome John Hurd as our organist today. John is the former Music Minister for St. Columba's Church, Washington, DC.

**The Flowers on the altar today are given to the Glory of God by
Chuck and Janis Smith in Memory of Brother Raymond H. Lee, A
Phi A and in Thanksgiving for their 42nd wedding anniversary on
May 10th.**

*Our services and events may be live-streamed and/or recorded. By entering the service/event premises, you consent to photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for live streaming, promotional purposes, advertising, inclusion on web sites, and/or any other purpose by St. Mark's Episcopal Church. *

If you would prefer not to be shown on camera, please sit on the pulpit side of the nave, behind the videographers.

Readers and Intercessor

1st Reader: Charlene Langley

2nd Reader: Beth Walton

Intercessor: Chuck Smith

St. Mark's Announcements

1. **“Scripture or Reason, I am Sure, Do Not Anywhere Say So:” Reading Scripture and Finding Freedom with John Locke.** Sunday, 9:05-10:15am, Parish Hall and via Zoom. Please join us for this critical study of Locke’s use of scripture and reason in laying political and religious foundations for natural rights, democracy, and freedom. No prior reading required. Please see Rev. Wilkins for more information.
2. **Financial Oversight Committee (FOC):** Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 7:00pm in the library. Please let the Parish Administrator know if you would like to attend this meeting via Zoom.
3. **Funeral for Eleanor (Ellie) Thurber,** Thursday, May 18, 11:00 am, in the Church.
4. **Vestry Meeting:** Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Please let the Parish Administrator know if you would like to attend this meeting via Zoom.
5. **At-Home Covid-19 Self-Test kits** are available, free of charge, in the church office.
 - a. There are 2 kits in each box; we will provide one box per person.

- b. Please contact Janis Smith, Parish Administrator, or Keira Vargas, Parish Secretary, if you would like a box of test kits. Contact number: 301-622-5860.
6. **Coffee Hour Hosting:** Please consider helping to host the *Coffee Hour* following the 10:30 service. Help is needed with setup, cleanup, and purchasing. There is a sign-up sheet located on the wall beside the coffee pot in the Parish Hall. Instructions on what a host needs to do may be found on the clipboard. We give thanks for all those who help with this ministry of hospitality.
7. **Altar Flowers:** Beginning with Easter and through the season of Epiphany, you may sponsor the Altar Flowers for any Sunday or major feast day in memory of your loved ones, a birthday, an anniversary, or any other suitable occasion - or even just because. The sign-up book with details is in the church office or, on Sundays, in the narthex (at the back of the church). Please contact the office for more information or to support this part of our worship ministry.
8. **Bag Lunches for Elizabeth House:** On the 3rd Sunday of each month, following the 8:00am service, St. Mark's Outreach ministry makes bag lunches for those in need at Elizabeth House. St. Mark's is looking for volunteers to help make these bag lunches. Please contact Linda Toran or the office if you would like to volunteer.
9. **"Good morning" Greeters:** As a welcoming congregation that is now back to in-person worship, we'd like to return to having greeters at the sanctuary doors on Sunday mornings. The main purpose will be to say "Good Morning" to all who enter and point out the location of the bulletins. This would be a separate function from the Usher. If anyone is interested in volunteering, there will be a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall near the coffee machine.

Please check your e-letters and the website for the most up-to-date information.

Save the Date

Saturday, June 24, 1:00pm - 4:00pm: Seventh Annual Rockville Pride!
In-Person Event at the Rockville Town Square, free and open to all ages.

Featuring:

- Live performances.
- Information booths and dialogue.
- Arts and crafts/children's activities.

St. Mark's Mission

- ❖ We will deepen our faith by adopting more liturgical options to reach out into the community.
- ❖ We will extend our outreach by getting more people involved in and reaching more people through community involvement.
- ❖ We will embrace evangelism by choosing to be a church that reaches out to our community and spread the good news of Christ.

❖ We will increase our participation by being committed to our church through regular attendance, and giving of our resources of time, talent, and treasure.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Fairland, MD

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Parish Office hours: Monday – Friday, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm and by appointment.

The Rev. Dr. Christopher Wilkins, Rector

rector@stmarks-silverspring.org * 301-622-5860 ext. 105

Janis Smith, Parish Administrator

administrator@stmarks-silverspring.org * 301-622-5860 ext. 104

Don Hague, Director of Music

Keira Vargas, Parish Secretary

Pamela Gibson, Senior Warden

Rosanne Tingley, Junior Warden

For information about St. Mark's, please visit our website:

www.stmarksfairland.org * www.stmarks-silverspring.org

We hope that today's service has been a blessing to you.

We are here to serve you, and hope to see you again.

Please feel free to call us, email us, or visit us online.

Cover Art Photo: Koenig, Peter. I am the Gate, detail of Dove, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58556> [retrieved May 1, 2023]. Original source: <https://www.pwkoenig.co.uk/>.